

DALLAS, TEX.
NEWS

E - 242,928

S - 284,097

MAY 6 1972

What Kind of Conscience?

The politics of tears and tizzies excites little sympathy. It is intended, we suppose, to express conscience—but what kind of conscience? Take Sen. Mike Gravel of Alaska.

He poured a weeping version of the Pentagon Papers into the Congressional Record last year, but instead of applauding, his colleagues talked of censuring him for revealing classified documents.

Now Gravel has tried another act of conscience. In their current drive for peace with dishonor, the liberals have raided the classified vaults again—and Gravel was ready to make another dramatic reading, proving this time that Mr. Nixon is guilty of "genocide" for bombing Hanoi.

He had stolen papers to prove it

—a war survey made by Mr. Nixon's own experts. But Gravel was blocked, and he had the added mortification of seeing the Washington Post publish the 3-year-old paper in which the CIA and other people said: Don't bomb!

The politics of tears and tizzies says that because Mr. Nixon is now bombing, anyhow, he is a mass killer and malfecator in office. But the sane view is that the papers "don't amount to a damn"—so says Sen. William Saxbee of Ohio.

They certainly don't if the bombing protects American lives in Vietnam, but there wasn't a word or a tear for that in Gravel's attempted tirade.

What kind of conscience puts enemy lives first as long as there's an American left in Vietnam?